Application No. 09/426,776

## AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the paragraph in lines 14-18 on page 22 of the specification as indicated:

The secretion activity of the SS can be arranged assayed by measuring the proportion of a reporter protein secreted into the medium of cultured recombinant cells expressing SS-reporter protein fusions. The cleavage activity can be assessed by N-terminal sequencing of the secreted protein.